

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 1, line 16 as follows:

Conventional play structures are often designed for outdoor use and are found in recreational parks or theme parks. For this reason, such parks are located in more temperate southerly regions where the winters are mild and snow and ice does not frequently occur even in the wintertime. In such moderate climates on the other hand many of the inhabitants have never seen snow and have never ~~experimented~~ experienced winter sporting activities, such as skiing, sledding or ice skating. In such regions, even in desert areas of the south western United States or in Middle Eastern or Asian countries, a desire exists to engage in recreational activities related to winter, whereas this is largely prevented by the lack of cold winter weather.

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 2, line 10 as follows:

A very large-scale commercial water park, which incorporates interactive water play structures, is disclosed in US Patent ~~no.~~ No. 5,194,048. Participants including both children and adults have discovered the entertainment and educational benefits of such parks, apart from the pure amusement.

Please insert the following paragraph on page 5 after line 16 as follows:

Fig. 3 is a schematic representation of an interactive system suitable for use with the present recreational facility.

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 7, line 11 as follows:

Melting snow is collected in a water collection system as part of the power station 7 and is reused to generate new snow. Snow blowing machines of conventional type 15 (shown hidden and schematically in Fig. 1) can be used at selected locations along the ski slopes 3, 4 and 5 as well as in the Swiss mountain village and winter parks 9. In this manner, the water consumption for snow and ice generation is operated in a closed circulation system. Once the facility is in operation, the water consumption for snow and ice itself is reduced to an absolute minimum.

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 7, line 18 as follows:

Electric power generation is basically provided by the provision of photovoltaic cells 14 on the tunnel-like structures 3, 4 and 5 and/or covering of the parking lot (see Fig. 2). Only peak power demands need be covered by the local power grid or by own generators.

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 9, line 5 as follows:

The ski slopes, sledding and snowboard slopes themselves are preferably supplied with snow using more environmental-friendly means. Water can be sprayed on concrete walls, which are kept below freezing, for example with an ammonia-based coolant. Ice and frost forming on the surface of the concrete walls is scraped off and transported to the ski slopes by ~~snow plows~~snowplows or ~~snow mobiles~~snowmobiles. The underlying surface of the ski slopes are preferably cooled, for example by an underground piping system in which a coolant is circulated.

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 10, line 15 as follows:

In a particularly advantageous embodiment, and referring now to Fig. 3, an interactive aspect is added to the amusement effect. As mentioned above, the winter facilities can include ski slopes, ski jumps, sledding runs, snowboard halfpipes, bobsled runs, snowmobile runs, ice skating rinks, curling rinks, hockey rinks and the like. In a preferred system, generally designated 19, ~~The~~the active devices 20 used by the participants include downhill skis, snowboards, sleds, bobsleds, snowmobiles, ice skates, hockey gear, curling gear, etc. Sensors 22 are provided not only on the active devices 20, but also in the respective facility in order to monitor the activities of the individual participants. The information is collected in a central information processing system 24, which has the capability of informing the individual participant of his current activity. For this purpose,

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each participant is provided with a wireless or radio receiving device 26 with a display 28,  
for example attached to his or her wrist. In this way, he or she can receive information not  
only on his activities, but also other types of information.